

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Action
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FROM: Mexico City

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 245, August 21, 1 p.m.

FOR HOLLAND

Further to your 214 August 18.

Foreign Minister advised me last night Foreign Office still has no word from Guatemala, although it has requested a report from its Embassy there of any contemplated joint action or complaint to COAS. As to latter, he stated that from observations made by certain of the other governments harboring asylees, he gathered that they were a little fearful of their responsibilities in the premises and would like to pass the problem to COAS to handle. No such suggestion, however, has yet been made to me.

When I asked his views on the suggested way out, he at first tried to avoid committing himself, on the basis that they have not yet been approached by Guatemala in the matter. In the course of protracted discussion of this and other matters, he did, however, indicate that Mexico would prefer deal with the matter on the basis of request for extradition, and that decisions as to whether a refugee is a common or a political refugee, he says, is to be made by the host government under the asylum conventions. He also laid much stress on the point of whether criminal charges were made against an asylee before or after he sought asylum. I tried to point out the entirely different aspect of the whole problem on account of the intervention of international communism. He finally admitted that perhaps that would require a change in the conventions, but said that this has not yet taken place.

He stated that the Guatemalan Government had asked for the detention of Cruzwer and Rosenberg, pending request for extradition, and he had immediately passed the request on to the competent authorities and so advised Guatemala. He did not know whether these two fugitives have yet been apprehended.

He also said that he would find suggestion number two the easiest to deal with, and he also stated in the case of any asylees in the Mexican Embassy who want to go behind the iron curtain, if one of those countries agrees to receive them, he would have no objection to surrendering them for that purpose.

REVIEWED BY

DAWHLITE

2/7/82

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